

ISSUE DATE: March 14, 1997

DOCKET NO. P-3144/NA-96-822

ORDER GRANTING AUTHORITY, AS CONDITIONED

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Edward A. Garvey
Joel Jacobs
Marshall Johnson
Mac McCollar
Don Storm

Chair
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

In the Matter of FirsTel Communications,
Inc.'s Request for Authority to Provide Local
Exchange Services in Minnesota

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This matter came before the Commission on March 11, 1996.

In addition to what is set forth regarding the substance of the Company's proposal in the Company's petition and the Department's comments (see attached), the Company has clarified that its name is FirsTel, Inc. rather than FirsTel Communications, Inc., as the name erroneously appeared on the Company's application and, hence, in the title of this case.

The Commission notes that the Company applied to the Commission as FirsTel, Inc. and received a certificate of authority to provide long distance services in Minnesota under that name in the Commission's January 31, 1994 Order in Docket No. P-3144/NA-93-953.

Based on the record before it, the Commission approved the Company's request for a certificate of authority to provide local exchange services, subject to the following conditions:

- 1) authority is limited to the existing territory of U S WEST;
- 2) FirsTel will be subject to any rules adopted in the local competition rulemaking, Docket No. P-999/R-95-53;
- 3) Commission approval of interconnection agreements pursuant to the requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996;
- 4) Commission approval of a final tariff including rates and terms and conditions of service; and

- 5) as part of its final tariff, the Company will properly identify itself as FirsTel, Inc.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

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